

In the Claims:

1-14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently amended) A method for distribution of application programs to a target on-demand server station on a network comprising the steps executed on a centralized network management server coupled to the network of:

providing an application program to be distributed to the network management server;
specifying a source directory and a target directory for distribution of the application program;

preparing a file packet associated with the application program and including a segment configured to initiate registration operations for the application program at the target on-demand server station; and

distributing the file packet to the target on-demand server to make the application program available for use by a user at a client station.

16. (Original) A method according to Claim 15 wherein the network management server is a Tivoli™ server.

17. (Currently amended) A method according to Claim 16 wherein the segment configured to initiate registration operations includes an import data file and a call to an import program executing on the target on-demand server station to install and register the file packet associated with the application program on the target on-demand server in a manner that makes it recognized and available to the user at the client.

18. (Currently amended) A method according to Claim 16 where the application program is provided as a JAVA™ applet and wherein the application program is registered based on a Universal Resource Locator (URL) address accessible to a browser application and wherein the segment configured to initiate registration operations includes a variable field

into which the target on-demand server station inserts its identification during registration operations.

19. (Currently amended) A method according to Claim 18 wherein the step of distributing comprises the step of distributing the file packet to a plurality of target on-demand servers stations each having an identification which may be inserted into the variable field at the target on-demand server station.

20. (Currently amended) An application program distribution system for distributing application programs to a target on-demand server stations on a network executing on a centralized network management server coupled to the network, the system comprising:

means for providing to the network management server an application program to be distributed to remote servers;

means for specifying a source directory and a target directory for distribution of the application program;

means for preparing a file packet associated with the application program, the file packet including a segment configured to initiate registration operations for the application program at the target on-demand server stations; and

means for distributing the file packet to the target on-demand server stations to make the application program available for use by a user at a client.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently amended) A computer program product for distributing application programs to a target on-demand server stations on a network executing on a centralized network management server coupled to the network, the computer program product comprising:

a computer-readable storage medium having computer-readable program code means

embodied in said medium, said computer-readable program code means comprising:

computer readable program code means for providing to the network management server an application program to be distributed to remote servers;

computer readable program code means for specifying a source directory and a target directory for distribution of the application program;

computer readable program code means for preparing a file packet associated with the application program, the file packet including a segment configured to initiate registration operations for the application program at the target on-demand server stations; and

computer readable program code means for distributing the file packet to the target on-demand server stations to make the application program available for use by a user at a client.

23. (Canceled).

24. (Previously presented) A system according to Claim 20 wherein the network management server is a Tivoli™ server.

25. (Currently amended) A system according to Claim 24 wherein the segment configured to initiate registration operations includes an import data file and a call to an import program executing on the target on-demand server stations to install and register the file packet associated with the application program on the target on-demand server in a manner that makes it recognized and available to the user at the client.

26. (Currently amended) A system according to Claim 24 wherein the application program is provided as a JAVA™ applet and wherein the application program is registered based on a Universal Resource Locator (URL) address accessible to a browser application and wherein the segment configured to initiate registration operations includes a variable field into which the target on-demand server stations inserts its identification during registration operations.

27. (Currently amended) A system according to Claim 26 wherein the means for distributing comprises means for distributing the file packet to a plurality of target on-demand servers stations each having an identification which may be inserted into the variable field at the target on-demand server stations.

28. (Previously presented) A computer program product according to Claim 22 wherein the network management server is a Tivoli™ server.

29. (Currently amended) A computer program product according to Claim 28 wherein the segment configured to initiate registration operations includes an import data file and a call to an import program executing on the target on-demand server stations to install and register the file packet associated with the application program on the target on-demand server in a manner that makes it recognized and available to the user at the client.

30. (Currently amended) A computer program product according to Claim 28 wherein the application program is provided as a JAVA™ applet and wherein the application program is registered based on a Universal Resource Locator (URL) address accessible to a browser application and wherein the segment configured to initiate registration operations includes a variable field into which the target on-demand server stations inserts its identification during registration operations.

31. (Currently amended) A computer program product according to Claim 30 wherein the computer readable program code means for distributing comprises computer readable program code means for distributing the file packet to a plurality of target on-demand servers stations each having an identification which may be inserted into the variable field at the target on-demand server stations.

32. (New) A method according to Claim 15 wherein distributing the file packet is

preceded by executing a pre-distribution program at the network management server.

33. (New) A method according to Claim 32 wherein executing a pre-distribution program includes determining an environment for the application program that exists on the target on-demand server.

34. (New) A method according to Claim 33 wherein preparing a file packet includes including a selected version of an application launcher in the file packet, the selected version being selected based on the determined environment.

35. (New) A method according to Claim 15 wherein distributing the file packet is followed by executing an after-distribution program at the target on-demand server.

36. (New) A method according to Claim 17 wherein registration operations include maintaining at the target on-demand server a profile management list identifying application programs available for use by the user and wherein the method further comprises updating the profile management list at the target on-demand server to make the application program available for use by the user.

37. (New) A method according to Claim 36 wherein the profile management list includes a designation of authorized users for application programs identified in the profile management list.